

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

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R 100829Z SEP 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6598

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USUN NEW YORK 1380

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14513

E.O. 1652: GDS

TAGS: ECAFE:UR:MG:CH:AORG

SUBJECT: RED:ECAFE:MARAMIS VISITS MOSCOW AND ULAN BATOR

REF: BANGKOK 11568 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: DURING TRIP TO MOSCOW AND ULAN BATOR, AFTER WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE IN BUCHAREST, SOVIETS PRESSURED MARAMIS TO EMPLOY MORE SOVIETS IN ECAFE AND APPOINT SOVIET DIVISION CHIEF. ULAN BATOR TRIP MARRED ONLY BY PERSISTENT PRESENCE OF SOVIET UNDP RESREP. AND OVERWHELMING MONGOLIAN HOSPITALITY.

END SUMMARY.

2. ECAFE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY J.B.P. MARAMIS AND HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT RUDY GONTHA (BOTH INDONESIAN) RETURNED SEPTEMBER 6 FROM OFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW AND ULAN BATOR AFTER FIRST ATTENDING WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE IN BUCHAREST. GONTHA'S SUMMARY COMMENTS ON THIS TRIP FOLLOW.

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3. POPULATION CONFERENCE: MARAMIS DELIVERED HIS SPEECH TO VIRTUALLY EMPTY HALL WHILE DELEGATES ATTENDED NATIONAL DAY FESTIVITIES. DESPITE MARAMIS' OBJECTIONS, CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT INSISTED THAT HIS SPEECH REFER ONLY TO ESCAP (ECAFE'S NEW NAME) ALTHOUGH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS STILL NOT OFFICIALLY APPROVED NAME CHANGE. ECAFE STILL PLANNING TO ADOPT NEW NAME ON 1 JAN. 1975.

4. MOSCOW: AS GONTHA PREDICTED, SOVIET OFFICIALS INCLUDING DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PRESSED HARD TO HAVE ECAFE APPOINT SOVIET CITIZEN TO HEAD ONE OF ECAFE'S DIVISIONS. WHEN MARAMIS NOTED (SOMEWHAT INCORRECTLY SINCE AMERICAN CITIZENS FRISEN AND FINLINSON ARE POPULATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION CHIEFS RESPECTIVELY) THAT ONLY CITIZENS OF REGIONAL COUNTRIES ARE APPOINTED DIVISION CHIEFS, SOVIET OFFICIAL HEATEDLY INSISTED THAT SOVIET UNION IS A REGIONAL MEMBER. SOVIETS ALSO ASKED THAT MORE SOVIET CITIZENS BE CONSIDERED FOR ASSIGNMENTS AT LOWER LEVELS IN ECAFE. GONTHA CLAIMED MARAMIS AND HE BOTH FELT SOVIETS WERE PRESSING FOR ACTION OUT OF FEAR PRC MAY BEGIN TO PARTICIPATE MORE ACTIVELY IN ECAFE. SOVIETS NEVER REFERRED TO CHINA DIRECTLY BUT ONLY TO "A CERTAIN COUNTRY".

5. ULAN BATOR: MONGOLIANS RECEIVED MARAMIS AND GONTHA WARMLY BUT ECAFE OFFICIALS SOON TIRED OF CONTINUED PRESENCE AT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS OF LOCAL SOVIET UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE WHO TOOK VERBATIM NOTES. GONTHA INDICATED THEIR GROWING IRRITATION TO MONGOLIAN OFFICIAL, WHOM GONTHA HAD KNOWN ON UN FIFTH COMMITTEE, AND LATTER ARRANGED FOR SOVIET RESREP. TO BE ABSENT FROM MARAMIS AND GONTHA INTERVIEW WITH PRIME MINISTER. SOVIET RESREP. DID NOT SEE THEM OFF. MARAMIS AND GONTHA WERE ENTERTAINED ROYALLY BY MONGOLIAN HOSTS AT A YURT OUTSIDE OF TOWN BUT UNFORTUNATELY AN HORSE'S MILK, BLOOD AND LOCAL SPIRITS, DID NOT AGREE WELL WITH MARAMIS. MONGOLIAN HOSTS CONTINUALLY EXHIBITED EXTREME SELF-CONFIDENCE AND PRIDE IN IMPORTANT HISTORICAL ROLE MONGOLIANS HAVE PLAYED IN ASIAN HISTORY.

6. PEKING :NEXT STOP: EN ROUTE BACK TO BANGKOK MARAMIS AND GONTHA SPECULATED ABOUT RECEPTION THEY CAN EXPECT NEXT MONTH IN PEKING GIVEN POSSIBILITY LEADERSHIP MAY CHANGE AT ANY TIME. THEY EXPECT CHINESE WILL BE MORE DIRECT AND AVOID EUPHEMISMS ABOUT CONFIDENTIAL

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SOVIET UNION. MARAMIS STILL BELIEVES CHINESE WILL SET UP MISSION TO ECAFE IN BANGKOK WITHIN COMING YEAR; BUT GONTHA IS CONVINCED CHINESE WILL NOT MOVE TOWARDS ECAFE UNTIL RELATIONS ARE ESTABLISHED WITH RTG. GONTHA'S THEORY IS THAT IT IS BENEATH CHINESE DIGNITY TO SKULK AROUND BANGKOK BEFORE RELATIONS WITH THAIS ARE FORMALIZED. GONTHA IS ALSO CONVINCED THAT DURING THEIR VISIT PRC WILL USE THEM AS TWO FORMER INDONESIAN DIPLOMATS, TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT.

7. COMMENT: A COMPARISON OF MARAMIS VISITS TO MOSCOW AND  
PEKING COMING SO SOON AFTER EACH OTHER SHOULD PROVE INTERESTING.  
MARAMIS' VIEWS WILL CERTAINLY BE SOUGHT.  
KINTNER

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